

## PROVO CANYON

Settlers first coming to Provo Valley traveled through Provo Canyon, and some were intrigued enough by its beauty and potential that they began to settle at spots through the canyon. Several resorts and fun spots some of which were in the Wasatch County area were established.

One of the most colorful canyon characters was a Scotsman, William "Billy" Ferguson. He settled in the canyon about 1863 as operator of toll gates at Spring Dell and Vivian Park. Midway between Provo City and Heber he built a famous roadhouse with surrounding camping spots and fishing areas. He especially enjoyed flowers, pets and fruit trees. His friends called him a "born optimist" for he found happiness in every-

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HOW BEAUTIFUL UPON THE MOUNTAINS

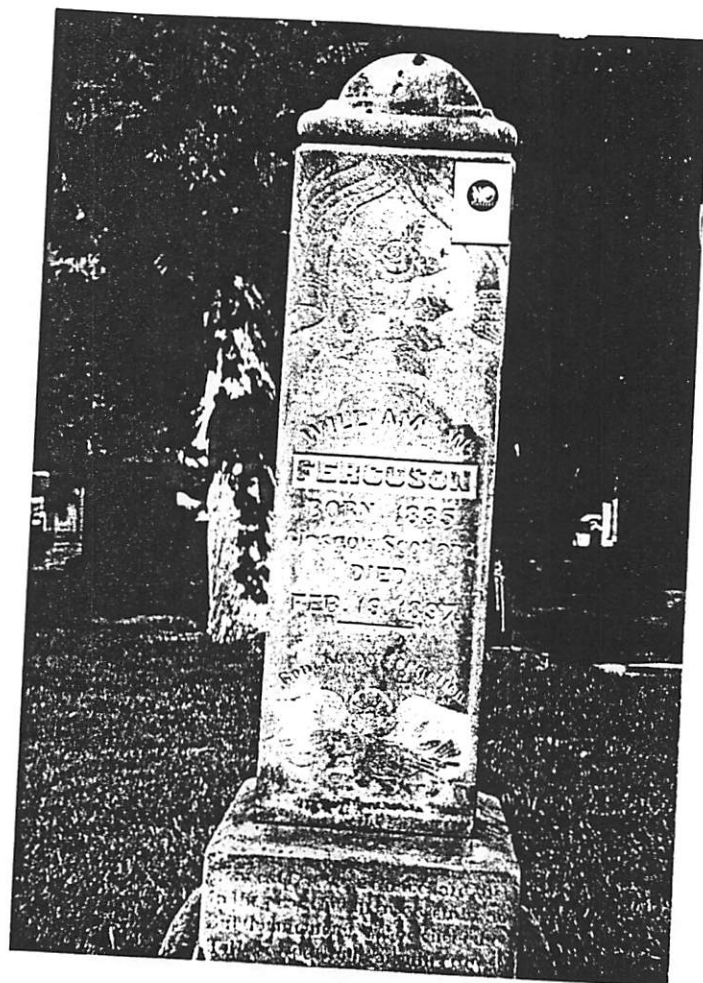
thing, especially his mountain home. Visitors enjoyed looking through his scrapbooks, and the many paintings and pictures he displayed.

Being a true Scotsman, he always celebrated the birthday anniversary of Robert Burns on January 25th of each year. He danced the "Highland Fling" like no one else around, to the delight of all the Scots who came to join with him in these entertainments.

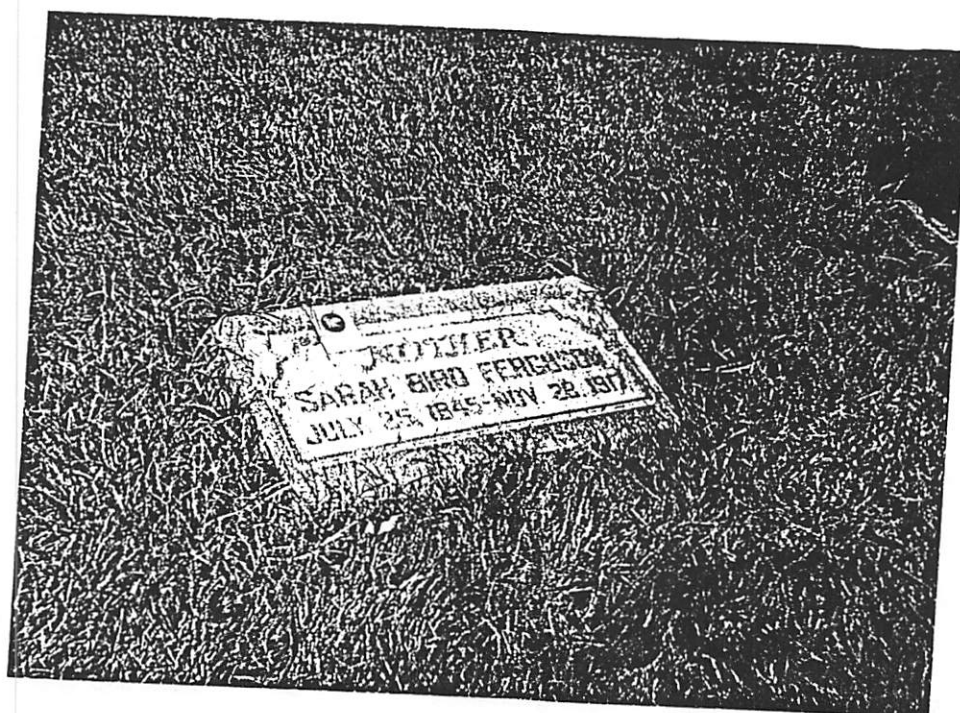
His life had an unfortunate ending as he was buried one winter night in a huge snowslide that covered completely his home, his pets and all his possessions.







William W. Ferguson's  
headstone in Provo City  
Cemetery



Sarah Bird Ferguson's headstone in Provo City Cemetery